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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/591,510	06/12/2000	Robert Gelinas	0141.00US	3586

29526 7590 07/06/2005

LEGAL DEPARTMENT
MIPS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
1225 CHARLESTON ROAD
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94043

EXAMINER

KIM, KENNETH S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/591,510

Applicant(s)

GELINAS ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth S. KIM

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

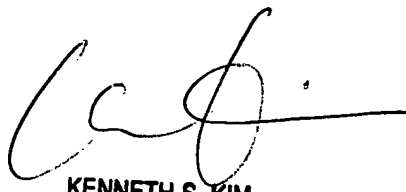
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 May 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24 and 27-33 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24 and 27-33 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.


KENNETH S. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date May0505 & May0905.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2111

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on May 5, 2005 has been entered.

1. Claims 12-24 and 27-33 remain for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 12-24 and 27-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cawley, U.S. Patent No, 5,361,334.

Cawley teaches the invention as claimed in claim 12 including a processing system comprising:

- (a) a processor configured to formulate an instruction and data, from a thread associated with a first context, for sending to a device (col. 4, line 62), said instruction

requesting the device to perform a command and write return data to a destination register associated with the first context in the processor' (col. 5, line 6),

(b) perform a context switch to switch from processing the first context to a second context prior to receiving the return data (col. 5, line 1);

(c) a bus controller configured to generate a system bus operation to send the formulated instruction and data along with a thread identifier to the device (so return data is identified with the thread identifier; col. 5, lines 36 and 45), and

further teaches as in claims 13-24,

(d) the processor is further configured to store an address of the destination register for return data received by the bus controller along with the thread identifier (col. 5, lines 6 and 45) – claims 13, 14, and 22,

(e) the processor is configured to clear a wait bit in a status register associated with the first context after writing the return data to the destination register (for the thread to recognize the return data and to be in ready state; col. 5, line 7) – claims 15 and 21,

(f) the device is a table look up unit (memory or can be any response device) – claim 16,

(g) context register files including general registers and special registers. (col. 4, line 5) – claims 17-19,

(h) program counter and scheduler for pointing to next context instruction (for switch of context) – claims 20, 23, and 24.

The method claims 27-33 are equivalently rejected based on the same reason.

Applicant is reminded that Fotland et al, previously cited, teaches the use of context registers and memory access destination registers (Pars. 40 and 84), Bucher, previously cited, teaches the use of thread context information storing data structure (col. 3, line 30), and Wingard et al, previously cited, teaches a bus controller that sends thread identifier with the command.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mounes-Toussi et al taught a method of associating cache line with thread identifier.

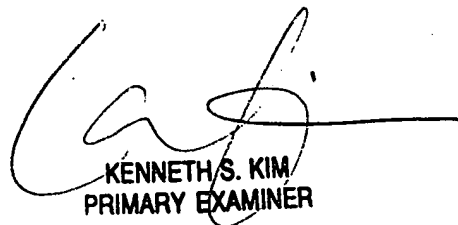
Nemirovsky et al taught a method of tagging command and response with context identifier (par. 524).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth S KIM whose telephone number is (571) 272-3627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-17:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (571) 272-3632. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

July 1, 2005



KENNETH S. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER